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NEWSLETTER



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ADMINISTRATOR'S MESSAGE

This is the time of the year to be thinking of spring, green grass, planting, and all those other good things. Oh, I forgot to mention floods, tornados, and all those OTHER good things. We should be getting rid of winter storms and there doesn't seem to be a season for earthquakes and hazardous material spills.

Also, about this time of year, we all - (local, state and federal) - are concerned about next years budget. At the Federal level, the FY85 budget has been presented to Congress and the Civil Defense line item reflects an increase nationwide of \$78,915,000.00 for the second year deployment of the Integrated Emergency Management System (IEMS). And, at this point in time, even with the large federal deficit, it appears the Civil Defense budget proposal has an excellent chance to remain intact or nearly so. If so, maybe we can once again match all eligible expenses for local governments, and also support your other eligible communication and warning needs.

Through the Multi-Year Development Plan the needs of local and state governments should be more honestly reflected in the FY86 Federal budget. Even though this is a transition year to this concept for local governments and the inputs will not be as factual

as upcoming years, we feel it will still have the necessary impact on the Federal process.

Speaking of the Integrated Emergency Management System (IEMS) concept, we feel that we at the state level are moving forward. We have stepped up our liaison with the Montana Highway Patrol, Fire Services Training Bureau, Emergency Medical Services and other State agencies. We are having on-going discussions with the State Geologist Ed Bengler, and are working towards a comprehensive coordinated proposal for the 1985 State Legislature. We recently co-sponsored Floodplain Management Seminars with the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation. We participated in preparedness workshops with the preparedness officers of all the National Forests, and so on. The job is slow, the concept is good, and if we all, at all levels of government continue to press forward, the citizens of our State will all be better off for our efforts.

If you have an Emergency Operating Center, or are having one built in your county, you should read CPG 1-3, Revised January 1984. This booklet, "Federal Assistance Handbook, Emergency Management Direction and Control Programs" gives you what you need to know under Federal Grant Programs for the construction and equipping of EOC's.

GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE 1984

The 17th Annual Governor's Conference held February 15, 1984, at the Sheraton Hotel in Billings was the best attended of all conferences to date. The emphasis for this year's conference was centered on the legal implications to disaster preparedness.

Arvo VanAlstyne, Utah Commissioner of Higher Education and former professor at the Utah Law School; Mona Jamison, Governor Schwinden's Staff Attorney; and Robert Deschamp III, County Attorney for Missoula County spoke to the group. Joe LaFleur, Special Assistant to the Director of Emergency Management Institute and Linda Stoll Anderson, Chairperson of the Lewis and Clark County Commission spoke at the noon luncheon. They addressed the training programs to broaden the knowledge of the audience on Emergency Management Training. Lt. Governor George Turman was the dinner speaker for the evening banquet.

Copies of the video tapes of Dr. VanAlstyne, Mona Jamison and Robert Deschamp III are available through this office. If you wish a video copy of these speeches, please send a blank video tape to us and indicate the portion you desire. A copy will be made for you free of charge. A transcript of the presentations is being developed and should be available in the near future. Please notify the State Office or your District Representative if you wish a copy.

This year, mayors and city managers of incorporated cities and towns were invited to the conference. It is hoped to have more of these officials attend future Annual Governor's Conferences.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Just to clear the air as to what was in the air on the 23rd floor of the Sheraton Hotel that irritated the eyes and throats of each of us; it was number 1029 in your Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Guidebook - DICHLOROMONOFUOROMETHANE.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR SUGGESTIONS

our waste baskets are empty again

TEAMWORK

It isn't our course of thought here to go into the semantics of Theology, but in the fiery bus - tanker crash on Highway 2 on the night of January 21st, the Hand of God failed while the hand of man prevailed. As you will recall on that fatal night nine persons were killed and seventeen were injured. Had it not been for the teamwork of many first responder agencies and a host of other groups and individuals, those injured and even the non-injured could have fared much worse.

Kim Potter and his emergency services network of trained individuals and groups who responded to the accident are to be commended for a job well done. It is tragic when an accident happens anywhere to anyone, but it is reassuring to know that Disaster and Emergency Services is out there at a moments notice to take over the task of qualitative control for survival.

When Kim received the "Man of the Year" award from Flathead County Search and Rescue on January 21st, it was no surprise to us at the State. Kim is in charge of all the Flathead County Search and Rescue's medical training, teaching members cardiopulmonary resuscitation and first aid, and training them in the use of all the equipment. Mr. Potter also does the training for Valley Quick Response units, Red Cross and ALERT. The time Kim puts into this rescue work is unreal say other members of the Flathead County Search and Rescue.

WELCOME ON BOARD

We are pleased to announce the addition of Joann T. "Jody" Gibson to the State DES Staff. Jody is the new Accounting Technician, replacing Dianne Keller who accepted another State position.

Jody was born in Lewistown, MT, attended MSU and U of M. She moved to Helena in 1978.

Prior to joining DES, Jody worked with the county and state in investigative reporting and auditing. This background will make her a valuable asset to our staff.

COORDINATOR BEWARE !!!

Are you paying more for radio equipment than you should be? Can you afford to pay more than you have to? Chances are that unless you are watching your vendor like a hawk the answer to the first question is yes. I feel confident in stating this and I will tell you why.

In reviewing equipment proposals and purchases that have come across my desk recently, I discovered equipment quoted or sold at prices that are greater than those for the exact same equipment on the State Term Contract. As counties, you are eligible to purchase from the State Term Contract.

Salesmen are salesmen whether they are selling cars, insurance or high-tech. Their primary goal is to make money (no disrespect intended) as I am a firm believer in the theory that salesmen make the world go around. However, I also believe that unless you totally understand the product you are buying, the old adage "Buyer Beware" does apply.

If you have any questions regarding your radio equipment purchases, don't hesitate to call me. It is my job.

- Homer Young

EDITOR'S NOTE: Homer Young will be away from the office on Military Leave from April 2, 1984, to June 25, 1984. Any questions and/or problems concerning communications should be directed to George DeWolf.

EQUIPMENT FOR LOAN

The Birdseye Volunteer Fire Dept. Helena, MT has a Butler water trailer with a 4500 gallon capacity that it would like to loan to another department under the excess property program. The trailer needs new tires, but the pump works. It weighs 36,000 when full so it will take a two axle semi-trailer to pull it. Call Maurice Hardie, 442-3140 for more information.

The Augusta Volunteer Fire Dept. would like to loan to another department a 500 gallon water trailer under the excess property program. Call Vern Erickson at 562-3252, Augusta, MT for more information.

EMP WORRIES COULD END

RCA has been awarded a \$97 million contract to build radio relay stations throughout the nation that could withstand a nuclear attack, the U.S. Air Force said recently.

The 50 independently powered stations in the Ground Wave Emergency Network (GWEN) will be designed to resist heavy power surges from nuclear detonations that would short-circuit most systems (EMP).

During the nuclear tests in the Pacific, years ago, it was discovered the disturbed ionosphere can disrupt normal radio communications. GWEN is a way to circumvent ionosphere disruptions because key messages can get through from decision makers to the various armed forces by way of ground waves that hug the ground.

Project directors at Bedford, Mass. say the network being developed by RCA's Government Communications System will be made up of low-frequency broadcast-type relay stations throughout the continental U.S. If a portion of the network is destroyed, messages to and from the Strategic Air Command as well as other military installations will be rerouted through surviving stations.

Pilot stations were set up in Colorado, Nebraska, Kansas, Arkansas, Oklahoma and South Dakota.

When the network is completed, crews in Air Force E-4B and KC-135 flying command posts will receive messages as well as land-based forces.

Remember those porta-potties? The ingenious Mr. Earl Wahl put 18 of them to good use during the cold spell in Powell County when many of the residents there had frozen sewer lines. As Earl so wisely explained, it is not so bad to have frozen pipes, but it is a real problem not to be able to use the toilet. He further explained that Disaster and Emergency Services isn't just for floods and the like, but we're here and available for any kind of a disaster. During the flood Earl supplied 15 porta-potties to the hospital and another 20 to the nursing home, among other supplies and equipment to help alleviate the problems in his County.

EXERCISE AND TRAINING OFFICER

Kate Selby has been appointed the new Exercise and Training Officer for the Disaster and Emergency Services Division. Kate, who has been on the State Staff for six months has a degree in Marketing and Management from Montana State University.

In this newly established position, Kate will work with the new Professional Development Series Courses designed by the Emergency Management Institute and on emergency operations exercises.

We look forward to Kate joining the training team in Montana. Her background and experience should be a real addition to our training effort.

Congratulations Kate!

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING

As of press time, only two Professional Development Series courses remain for this Federal Fiscal Year; they are:

1. Introduction to Emergency Management.

Cheyenne, WY - May 21-25, 1984

2. Basic Skills - Effective Communications and Creative Financing.

Salt Lake City, UT - September 17-21, 1984

Montana has three (3) slots for each of these courses. Some applications have already been received for these courses. Get your applications in early. After the three slots have been filled, the remaining applications go on a waiting list.

I WAS CUT OUT TO BE A GENIUS

unfortunately somebody forgot

to put the pieces together

2-DAY HAZARDOUS MATERIAL SEMINARS SCHEDULED

The second of the 2-Day Hazardous Material Seminars is set for Glendive, MT on April 17-18, 1984. A good variety of subject matter will be covered by members of the State Staff plus eight others representing State agencies and industry. The subjects to be addressed will include such hazardous materials as liquid petroleum gas, pesticides, fertilizers, radioactive materials, also, the transportation of hazardous materials, Montana resources, and the disposal of hazardous materials. The seminar will be held at the Elks Club, 112 Bell St., Glendive, starting at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, April 17, and end about 4:30 p.m., on Wednesday April 18. For further information contact Robert A. Larsen, 207 W. Bell, Glendive, Phone 365-2566.

A similar 2-Day Hazardous Material Seminar will be held in Lewistown, MT on May 1-2, 1984. For further information contact Tom Bersuch, Box 778, Lewistown, phone 538-9482.

If you are in the vicinity of either one of these seminars, it would be well worth your while to attend. You will come away wondering how you got by without the knowledge about hazardous materials that you will receive at these sessions.

3RD QUARTER TRAVEL SCHEDULE

April 2-6; Joe Foster to Flathead and Lake Counties.

April 17-18; 2-day Hazardous Material Course Glendive.

April 23-27; Jim Brown Missoula County.

April 11-20; Joe Foster to Radiological Response Course sponsored by Reynolds Electric Engineering Co. Mercury, NV.

May 1-2; 2-day Hazardous Materials Course at Lewistown.

May 7-11; Joe Foster - Daniels and Sheridan Counties.

May 21-25; Jim Brown - Yellowstone Co.

June 4-8; Joe Foster - Hill and Blaine Counties.

June 18-23; Jim Brown - National Guard, AT.

NEW TRAINING COURSE

The Emergency Management Institute is in the process of developing additional new courses in Emergency Management.

Gil Gilbertson, George DeWolf, Chris Christensen, and Jonas Rosenthal from the Governor's Office, recently attended a region-wide offering of the new Formulating Public Policy Course. This eight hour course is geared to elected officials and department heads. The purpose of this course is to demonstrate to public officials how important it is for them to generate a public policy on specific aspects of Emergency Management.

The course is designed to maximize the involvement of the participants. Approximately 50% of the time is spent in group workshops.

We are excited about this course, and its possible application in Montana.

APRIL IS DISASTER PREPAREDNESS MONTH

Once again, April will be Disaster Preparedness Month in Montana. The State Office, as in the past, will have prepared Public Service Announcements for both TV and radio.

The theme of the TV announcements will be "The Integrated Emergency Management" concept. The radio spots being prepared will focus on specific disasters. They are designed to be released throughout the entire year.

We will use the Preparedness Poster used last year. Additional posters can be obtained through the District Representatives. These posters were designed and printed for a three year usage.

Let your District Representative or the State Office know if there is any way we can be of assistance in your Preparedness Month Program.



ELEVEN COUNTIES HIT WITH DISASTERS (Since January 1984)

Fifteen accidents of some kind or other spread across eleven counties, occurred since January 1, 1984. Hill, Sheridan and Yellowstone Counties each had two accidents.

The accident with the most fatalities was of course, the bus-truck accident in Flathead County, covered in more detail in another article.

The Amtrak derailment near Culbertson in Roosevelt County was a major accident but due to good teamwork at the scene by many agencies including Amtrak, Burlington Northern Railroad, MT Highway Patrol, ambulance services, hospitals, Doreene Ingram and her D.E.S. staff, local law enforcement, and many others, only one fatality occurred out of the 50 or so people injured in that accident. Again, thanks to the good work of local D.E.S. coordination and effort, the casualty list was low. Word from the scene of the accident and all agencies and facilities that got involved in the rescue effort, was that the teamwork was magnificent. The whole operation of rescue went so smoothly that an observer could have thought that the whole thing was staged. This of course is what prior planning can do for you.

Congratulations Doreene for a job well done.

The other incidents were spills of potentially hazardous materials. There were 550 gallons of oil, 10,800 gallons of diesel fuel, 23,875 gallons of salt water, 350 gallons of PCB, and 9,600 gallons of gasoline which caught fire and burned causing some concern to Havre residents.

A small propane truck carrying 1,500 pounds of LP gas caught fire on Highway 212 between Crow Agency and Busby on March 6th. Here again, Craig Taft's plan of operation and training of first responders paid off. Burning LP gas tanks can be dangerous but by using the proper approach to the problem no life or property was in danger.

Are YOUR plans updated? The law of averages could well catch up with you too.

SHELTER SURVEYING IS UNDERWAY

Don Sinnott, State Shelter Analyst is busy surveying buildings in Lewis and Clark County to comply with the new Population Protection Planning (PPP) concept recently issued by FEMA. The new concept is to survey all public and commercial buildings, plus some mines and tunnels for potential sheltering of the population for all hazards. If a shelter includes nuclear fallout shielding potential, this will be identified, but at present, reception area shelter (PPP) identification will occupy a majority of the survey effort.

Don's work schedule will be in Lewis and Clark County for at least six months. He will work the East Helena Valley area first then continue with the West Helena Valley and on to the rural areas of Wolf Creek, Lincoln, Augusta, with a wind-up in the City of Helena.

Don will also be working with the Region VIII Shelter Analyst to complete Stillwater, Sweet Grass, Park and Gallatin Counties. Carbon County has been completed and the others are projected to be completed by the fall of 1984.

At present, the shelter survey authorization is only for Population Protection Planning. Buildings surveyed prior to 1975 must be reevaluated based on new requirements for ventilation which may raise or lower the shelter capacity of these structures.

If you have shelter needs, please be patient, we will get to your county eventually.

NO MATTER HOW BUSY YOU ARE

you're never too busy to stop and

tell me how busy you are

COUNTIES PARTICIPATE IN SURVEYS

In October, several western counties of Montana participated in the Federal Regional Reconstitution of Government Area Surveys. They were conducted by independent contractors hired by FEMA.

The purpose of this program is to define geographical areas within a reasonable proximity to the center of Federal activities and to identify the facilities that may be used to support Federal Regional Reconstitution of Government following a Nuclear Holocaust or any other disaster!

The firm selected by FEMA is Sverdrup and Parcel and Associates. They have a team of twenty highly qualified engineers in the fields of architectural, structural, and electrical engineering.

Mr. John Harrington and Charley Chau out of the San Francisco Area office met with Civil Defense Directors from Silver Bow, Flathead, Beaverhead, Deer Lodge, Lake and Missoula Counties. Everyone was impressed with their knowledge and the thoroughness with which they conducted their surveys.

This firm of over 3,000 employees designed the Space Shuttle Launch Facility at Vandenburg AFB; the Trident Submarine Base at Bangor, WA, and one in Georgia; the Busch Memorial Stadium and most of the Busch Breweries; and many bridges across major U.S. highways.

Many local officials have asked "When is the Government going to do something about our sadly neglected Shelter Program?" This team and the others are busy verifying designated shelter status shown on Facility Listing printouts and updating the area with new building shelter potentials.

They are only surveying cities of 100,000 and under, and mostly rural areas. The projects should set the stage for new and better improvements to the shelter system.

- Wilma Puich

MAKE PLANS NOW FOR THE FLOOD SEASON

The Department of Natural Resources and Conservation-Floodplain Management Section is beginning to get its annual anxiety attack. It is coming closer to spring, bringing its much needed, but sometimes destructive moisture.

We all need to realize that flooding can occur each year no matter what has happened in the past or how much snow-pack is in the mountains. Remember Memorial Day weekend of 1981? The snow-pack was very similar to this year's. The flooding was mainly caused by rainfall.

Here are some things to do to help yourself and others if flooding threatens:

- Promote the purchase of flood insurance before the flood waters come. Remember you cannot purchase flood insurance unless your community is participating in the National Flood Insurance Program.

- Review and update, if necessary, your warning plans. If you have a plan of action, everyone can react quickly making it possible to accomplish much more on short notice.

- Review and update, if necessary, your evacuation plans.

- Ensure adequate number of sandbags and sand or other flood fighting equipment.

- You should do advanced planning for the removal of livestock and valuable property, this can be extremely important in cushioning the effects of flooding.

- Involve the entire family in making a preparedness plan so everyone can react quickly, if necessary. It should include specifics as to where to go, what to take and how to get there. It may be advisable to notify friends, neighbors, relatives or law enforcement agencies of your evacuation plans and your destination. Make a list and keep it handy for essential items such as medication, spectacles, clothing, diet foods and tools or equipment that might be needed at another location. List your valuables and important documents

that could be taken along if evacuation becomes necessary. Know where such items, including those of high sentimental, as well as real value, can be collected if flood danger is imminent. Priority may be given to items most subject to water damage. If flooding is a real possibility and there is time, remove food, furniture, rugs, clothing, appliances and other important items that can be damaged by water, to higher ground or higher levels of your building. If it is not practical to move appliances or machinery, it may be possible to remove electric motors. Turn off all electrical service at each building or main utility pole. Turn off gas appliances and close the meter or tank valve. Turn off water meter. Leave doors and windows open to help prevent building from being shifted or floated away. Consider filling a basement with clean water if flooding is assured, to reduce silt and mud damage. Filling the basement with water will help prevent damage to basement walls and can even prevent the buckling of basement floors. When a basement floor buckles from outside pressure, it will push up the basement walls and damage the structure of the whole house. (As a varifier in the 1981 flood, this editor witnessed many homes damaged just that way.)

If it is necessary to evacuate, do it as soon as possible to avoid having the avenues of escape cut off.

For additional information on flooding contact John Hamill or Tim Pool of the DNR&C-Floodplain Management Section 444-6646 or State D.E.S. 444-6911.

THE WAY YOU DRIVE YOUR CAR

you must be rehearsing

for an accident

RDO/RDIW

There are four (4) more RDO/RDIW courses scheduled for this Federal Fiscal Year.

1. Wyoming - June 11-16, 1984
2. South Dakota - June 24-29, 1984
3. Utah - July 8-13, 1984
4. Montana - September 9-14, 1984

These courses qualify the student to function as a Radiological Defense Officer and also instruct the Radiological Monitoring Courses.

Montana has three (3) slots in the Wyoming, South Dakota and Utah courses and fifteen (15) slots for the Montana course. Student expenses are reimbursed out of the State Office for attendance at these courses.

There continues to be a high demand for this course, so it is very important to have applications submitted early.

D.E.S. DIVISION - NEWSLETTER

Published Quarterly

Ted Schwinden
Governor

James W. Duffy
Adjutant General

C. L. Gilbertson
Administrator

The articles in this newsletter do not constitute official policy.

MY INSOMNIA IS GETTING WORSE AND WORSE

Now I can't even sleep when

it's time to get up

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